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STFCS – What is it?

- Compliance Verification and testing tool based upon the HIPAA ANSI X12N Implementation Guides
 - Compliance Verification
 - Process to ensure that the standards are implemented in a uniform manner according to the HIPAA ANSI X12 Implementation Guidelines.
 - Testing (Internal & between trading partners)
 - Quality
 - Quantity
 - Business (Industry)



Testing - Quality

- Confirm EDI mapping
 - Application to ANSI ASC X12 transaction
 - ANSI ASC X12 transaction to application
- Assure cost effective & efficient transmission.
- Provide information for decision making.
- Validate data dictionary, utilization of code sets, and assure unambiguous data content.
- Identify change impact on prior versions/ releases/sub releases.



Testing - Quantity

- Assure translation performance.
- Provide a "proof of concept" mechanism prior to deployment.
- Provide information to determine the most feasible tactical implementation plan in deployment.
- Highlight issues prior to mass deployment.
 Provides the capability to address these issues prior to implementation.



Testing – Business (Industry)

- Assure industry business needs are met.
- Provides an opportunity to work in concert with the various entities involved in the implementation.
- End to End or Loop testing
- Parallel processing
- Go Live!



STFCS – How does it work?

- WEB Based Tool
- Requires authentication of users
- Upload Test Files to secure Web site
- Compliance testing software automatically analyzes the test file against the established HIPAA implementation guide.



STFCS – How does it work?

- Produces a digitally signed web page that flags any discrepancies.
- Following a successful test, the reply will confirm that the submitted transaction set is syntactically correct and therefore is validated for acceptance by any trading partner.
- Logs subscribers which have passed compliance
- Compliant transaction library (Reference Library)



STFCS – What STFCS Checks

STFCS checks transactions on three levels.

Envelope
 Segments Checked:



- 2. Structural
 - Transaction set is checked ST to SE
- 3. Data Element
 - Each data element is checked.



STFCS – What Not Checked

- Implementation information contained in free-form notes
 - Data elements that contain specific formatting
 - X12 semantic notes

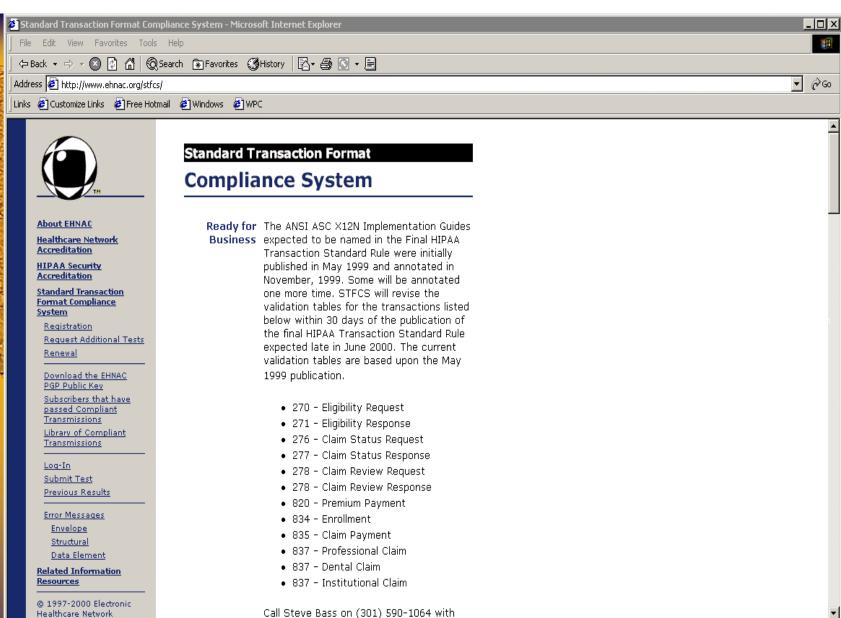
E.G. Premium Payment Guide (004010X061)

TRN03 must contain the Federal Tax ID Number proceeded by a 1.

TRN03 is a situational, alphanumeric string with a fixed length of 10 characters.

STFCS will not check if the first character was a "1" but will check that there are up to 10 valid characters.





Internet



STFCS-What are the Benefits?

- Establishes a single objective site to provide feedback on transaction compliance
- Use to resolve implementation disputes between trading partners
- WPC which publishes the X12N HIPAA Implementation guides developed and manages STFCS for EHNAC



STFCS-What are the Benefits?

- Verifies that a company can actually send or receive HIPAA X12N compliant transactions.
- Increases the efficiency of implementation due to reduce testing time required.
- Provides a reference library of compliant transaction for testing.



STFCS - Cost?

- \$595/year, which includes the registration fee and 250 tests
 - Additional 100 tests for \$100
- Annual renewal is \$395, includes 250 tests + carryover from previous year
- All EHNAC Accredited companies receive the service free of charge



Other Testing & Compliance Verification Tools

- Foresight Corporation
 - Provisto Free web base testing tool
 - EDISIM
- ◆ EDIFECS
- EDI Translators
 - HIPAA Tool Kits



EDI Resources / Education

- Skill set requirements
 - Health care knowledge
 - EDI knowledge
- Resources with both skills are very scarce
 - Recommendation
 - 1) Find people with healthcare knowledge first
 - 2) Training requirements
 - EDI Basic
 - EDI Tools
- WPC EDI Partners

"Introduction to Healthcare EDI"

WEDI / DISA / AFEHCT and others



Conclusions...

Compliance and testing tools existBDB!

Buy Don't Build!

- Differences between compliance verification and testing
- Choose tools wisely
- Education is extremely important Thank You!